

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0014] as follows:

The base 106 further includes a sound inlet port 126 positioned distal to the top edge 110. A sound inlet tube 128 that includes a mounting plate 130 and a sound passage 132 can be positioned adjacent to the sound inlet port 126 to direct the received acoustic waves into the base 106. The mounting plate 130 secures the sound inlet tube 128 to the base 106. The mounting plate 130 can be fixedly attached using, for example, a glue or epoxy, or removably attached using any know fastener. The sound passage 132 provides an acoustic path to the sound inlet port 126. The sound passage 132 can be formed through the sound inlet tube 128 in any suitable manner such as drilling, punching or molding. A damping element or filter 134 (see FIG. 4) positioned within the sound passage 132 provides an acoustical resistance to the microphone assembly 100. In operation, sonic energy or acoustic waves enter the microphone assembly 100 via the sound passage 132. Thereafter, the sonic energy or acoustic waves communicate to the sound inlet port 126. The sound inlet tube ~~108~~ 128, as discussed above in connection with the housing 102, can be manufactured from a variety of materials such as, for example, stainless steel, alternating layers of conductive materials, alternating layers of non-conductive materials (e.g., metal particle-coated plastics).

Please amend paragraph [0017] as follows:

The backplate assembly 134 may include a connecting wire 142 fixedly attached to a backplate 140. In particular, the connecting wire 142 attaches to a top surface the backplate 140 by, for example, bonding with adhesive. The connecting wire 142, in turn, extends through an opening 144 of the mounting frame 108 to electrically couple an input point 146 of the preamplifier assembly 122. In other words, the backplate assembly 134 and diaphragm assembly 124 are communicatively coupled to the preamplifier assembly 122 via the connecting wire 142 through the opening 144 to transmit and provide acoustic signals thereto.

Please amend paragraph [0021] as follows:

As discussed above, the preamplifier assembly 122 electrically connects via the input point 146 and the connecting wire 142 to the backplate assembly 134. Moreover, the preamplifier assembly 122 is grounded to the diaphragm 138 via the ground point 148, the mounting frame ~~422~~108, and the base 106. The plurality of electrical connection terminals 120 can comprise an input connection 158, an output connection 160, and a ground connection 162. The input connection 158 supplies electric power to the preamplifier assembly 122. The input connection 158 and the output connection 160 are communicatively connected to an input (not shown) the preamplifier assembly 122. The ground connection 162 connects the ground point 148 to reduce the sensitivity to low